

**VC
FA**
SUMMER
COMMENCEMENT

WEDNESDAY, JULY 2, 2025
Valencia, CA

about vcfa

Welcome to our Summer 2025 Commencement.

We are a global community of artists continuously redefining what it means to be an arts college. We measure success by our ability to foster the excellence of emerging and established practitioners.

We believe that the arts are central to the human experience and have the ability not only to reflect reality but also to create it.

At VCFA, we are committed to working in partnership with all members of our college and the external community to build and sustain a welcoming and inclusive environment.

We recognize, honor, and support diversity and equity in every context. As an institution, we actively focus our resources on outreach, expansion, and inclusion. As a community, we are fully committed to fostering the artistic, intellectual, individual, and social identities, contributions, and development of every one of our members.

order of events

Processional

Gonfalonieres: *Members of the VCFA Community*

Land Acknowledgement

Katie Rasmussen, *Dean of Students*

Welcome Remarks

Linda Urban, *Interim Dean of Faculty & Academic Affairs*

Conferring of the Graduate Degrees

Andrew Ramsammy, *President, VCFA*
Linda Urban

Closing Remarks

Andrew Ramsammy

Recessional

MFA IN FILM

Andrew Alden
Nathan Ashton
Mason Bendewald
Cole Frederick
Sharice Lamb
Christina Paschyn
Adam Targum

MFA IN GRAPHIC DESIGN

Shannon Doronio Chavez
Rian Kasner
Lana Lambert

MFA IN MUSIC COMPOSITION

Colin Hinton
Alex Kirkpatrick
Pamela Martinez
Stephen Owens
Ethan Sudan

MFA IN VISUAL ART

August X. Moon
Lauren Poretsky
Rachel Tirosh
Carla Elana Wojczuk

MFA IN WRITING

Christine Allen
Daniella Diaz
Amy Estes
Will Gordon
Wyvern Una Holland
Melissa LaCross
Kelley Lee
Gregory Moss
Adiba Nelson
Miah O'Malley
Shawn Reilly
Cevia Yellin
Dr. LiAnne Sandra Yu

MFA IN WRITING FOR CHILDREN & YOUNG ADULTS

Keliko Adams
Anastasia Ehling
Sarah Evans-Price
Madison Kirkbride
Janet Krauthamer
Grace Safford
Wendy Waltrip
Katherine Wiles

MFA IN FILM

Marya Cohn, *chair*
Damon Davis
Annie J. Howell
Daphne McWilliams
Emilie Upczak

MFA IN GRAPHIC DESIGN

James Chae, *chair*
Tasheka Arceneaux-Sutton
Amy Fortunato
Lorena Howard-Sheridan
Natalia Ilyin
Yoon Soo Lee
Matthew Monk
Ziddi Msangi
Silas Munro
Dave Peacock
Sereina Rothenberger
David Schatz
Ramón Tejada
Heather Snyder Quinn
David Jon Walker
Anne West

MFA IN MUSIC COMPOSITION

Carla Kihlstedt, *co-chair*
Roger Zahab, *co-chair*
Rick Baitz
Trudy Chan
Don DiNicola
Mike Early

Rob Frankenberry
Andy Jaffe
Ravi Krishnaswami
John Mallia
Lisa Mezzacappa
Frank J. Oteri
John Fitz Rogers

MFA IN VISUAL ART

Humberto Ramirez, *chair*
Mario Ontiveros
Michael Minelli
Marie Shurkus

MFA IN WRITING

Adam McOmber, *co-chair*
Sue William Silverman, *co-chair*
edwin bodney
C.L. Clark
Michael Croley
Caleb Curtiss
Tarfia Faizullah
Melissa Faliveno
Harrison Candelaria Fletcher
Miciah Bay Gault
Chachi Hauser
Barbara Hurd
Richard Jackson
Negesti Kaudo
Samuel Kóláwolé
Ellen Lesser
Brian Leung
Bret Lott
Robin MacArthur
Patrick Madden
Clint McCown
Philip Metres

faculty

MFA in Writing, continued

Wanjikū wa Ngūgĩ
Natasha Sajé
Betsy Sholl
Hasanthika Sirisena
Clifford Thompson
Leslie Ullman
Nance Van Winckel
David Wojahn

MFA IN WRITING FOR CHILDREN & YOUNG ADULTS

Linda Urban, *chair*

Will Alexander
An Na
Kathi Appelt
Tom Birdseye
Loree Grffin Burns
Sheela Chari
Melanie Crowder
Evan Griffith
Louise Hawes
Corey Ann Haydu
Veera Hiranandani
K.A. Holt
Varian Johnson
Jane Kurtz
Martine Leavitt

Kekla Magoon
Cory McCarthy
Anna-Marie McLemore
Erica S. Perl
Matt Phelan
Mary Quattlebaum
Anica Mrose Rissi
Sara Ryan
Alex Sanchez
Liz Garton Scanlon
Laura Shovan
Cynthia Leitich Smith
Nova Ren Suma
Jennifer Ziegler

leadership

ADMINISTRATION

Andrew Ramsammy, *President*

Lori Husein, *Chief Financial Officer*
J. Scott Price (W'19), *Chief of Staff*
Katie Rasmussen, *Dean of Students*
Linda Urban, *Interim Dean of Faculty & Academic Affairs*
Katrine Trantham, *Executive Director of Enrollment Management*

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Heidi Mohlman Tringe, *Chair*
Chebon Marshall, *Vice Chair*

Melissa Cobb
Joan Grubin
Steven Holley
Katherine Hosford
Barry Johnson
Alexandra Moore
Tina Perry
Ravi Rajan, *ex Officio*
Andrew Ramsammy, *ex Officio*
Mark Swicegood
Jeffery Wiggins

We extend
our heartfelt
appreciation to all
the staff of VCFA
whose contributions
to the programs are
immeasurable.



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